GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2453
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2005
SECURITY FOR AMARNATH PILGRIMS
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Rathod Shri Harisingh Nasaru

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made security arrangements for the security of Amarnath pilgrims in view of the incidents of bomb blast occurred recently in Kashmir valley;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a)to(c): Yes, Sir. As per the report of the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, in view of the incidents of recent bomb blast, various steps have been taken for the security of Amarnath pilgrims, which include the following-

(i) Security Forces deployed have been alerted and Road Opening Parties (ROPs) already deployed have been further strengthened;

(ii) Intensive patrolling of routes leading to holy cave is being carried out with surprise checking of vehicles;

(iii) Special nakas have been established en-route and thorough checking/ frisking is being carried out;

(iv) Doorframe metal detectors and X-ray machines/gadgets have been installed at holy cave, Sheshnag, Chandanwari, Ashmuquam and Base Camp.

In addition to the above mentioned steps, additional Central Paramilitary Forces and dog squads have been provided to the State Government for the security of Amarnath Yatra 2005. Central Government is also constantly monitoring and periodically reviewing the security arrangements made for the Yatra.